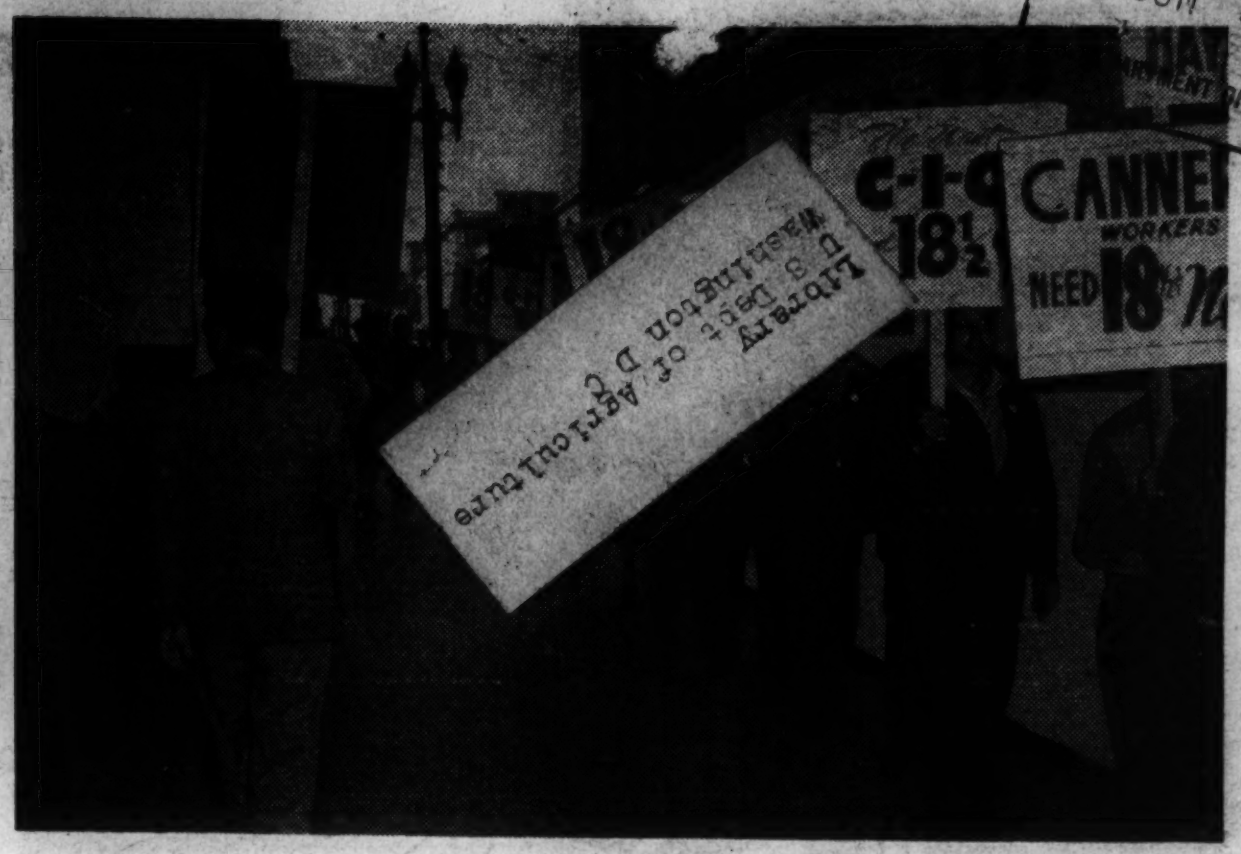
283.8
Un33
cop1

CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS
JUN 4 1946
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FTA news

FOOD, TOBACCO, AGRICULTURAL AND ALLIED WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA—CIO

Vol. VI. No. 9 | May 1, 1946 | 68 | Price 5 Cents



ONE BIG REASON why the California cannery employers are playing footsie with the AFL Teamsters and trying to freeze out the FTA is shown on the signs carried by these FTA pickets in front of the California Processors and Growers offices in Oakland. FTA-CIO is demanding 18.5c an hour in pay increases, while the AFL Teamsters ask only 10c, and are content to settle for even less than that. 18.5c is CIO standard. AFL unions don't even try for a decent break for the workers. Their only aim is to collect dues by agreement with the bosses and they're willing to do that at no matter what the cost to the workers in the canneries. FTA members are not the only victims of this kind of AFL tactics. If allowed to go on unchecked, other CIO unions will face the same situation. In fact, some have already been subjected to AFL raids and back-door agreements.

Cannery Workers Fight AFL Goons

Action on the California cannery case centered in opposite sides of the country in the past two weeks—in Washington, D. C., and in California itself.

The Washington action—which was scarcely decisive—was a conference of FTA, the government, and the AFL Teamsters called by U. S. Secretary of Labor Lewis B. Schwellenbach in a purported attempt to seek a "compromise" on the situation.

The California action consisted of the use of Teamster goon squads against FTA organizers and members (see pictures, page 8)—which happened the same week that the conference was being held—and the filing of numerous NLRB charges against the companies and against the Teamsters on the West Coast.

The conference with President Henderson attending for FTA and CIO General Counsel Lee Pressman for the national CIO, was not a success, due to the flat refusal of the Teamsters to meet in the same room with FTA people.

As Secretary of Labor Schwellenbach indicated to the press, the talks were purely "exploratory," with nothing definite decided except this: that the Natl. Labor Relations Board was the proper agency to handle the case and should proceed to enforce the Wagner Act.

Since this coincides exactly with FTA's and CIO's point of view, no further meetings have been scheduled and none is expected. Both FTA and CIO have been pressing the Labor Relations Board to do its duty by the Wagner Act in setting aside the collusive contracts between the Teamsters and the employers and in putting an end to the anti-FTA campaign of firing and other intimidation of FTA workers in the canneries.

Up to NLRB

The case is now squarely up to the Natl. Labor Relations Board in Washington, which must force the Teamsters and the California Processors and Growers—the employers association — to obey the law—see the Wagner Act completely defied.

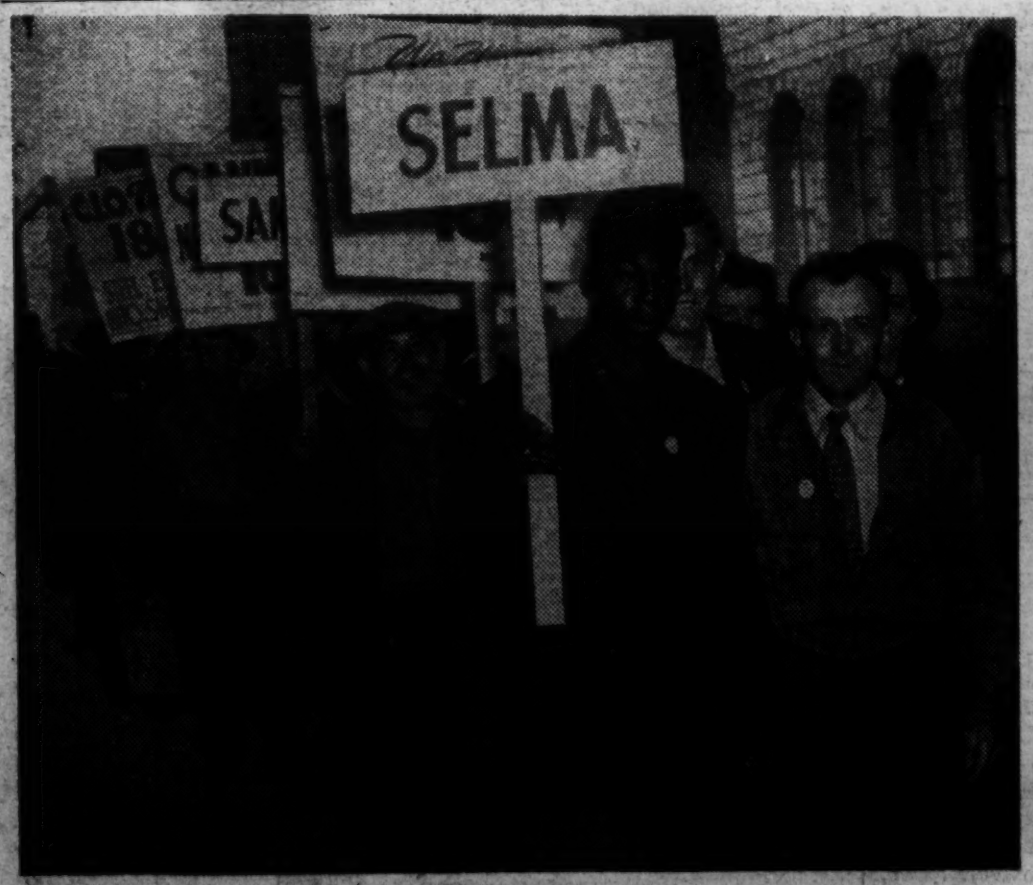
If the Teamsters and the employers are successful in this, it will not be long before all CIO unions will feel the full effect of AFL-employer deals to cut them out of their rightful representation.

Realizing this, FTA workers in California have been bombarding U. S. government officials with wires voicing their demands for quick and decisive action to put an end to the AFL-canners conspiracy. Typical of these wires is one sent to Secretary Schwellenbach which said:

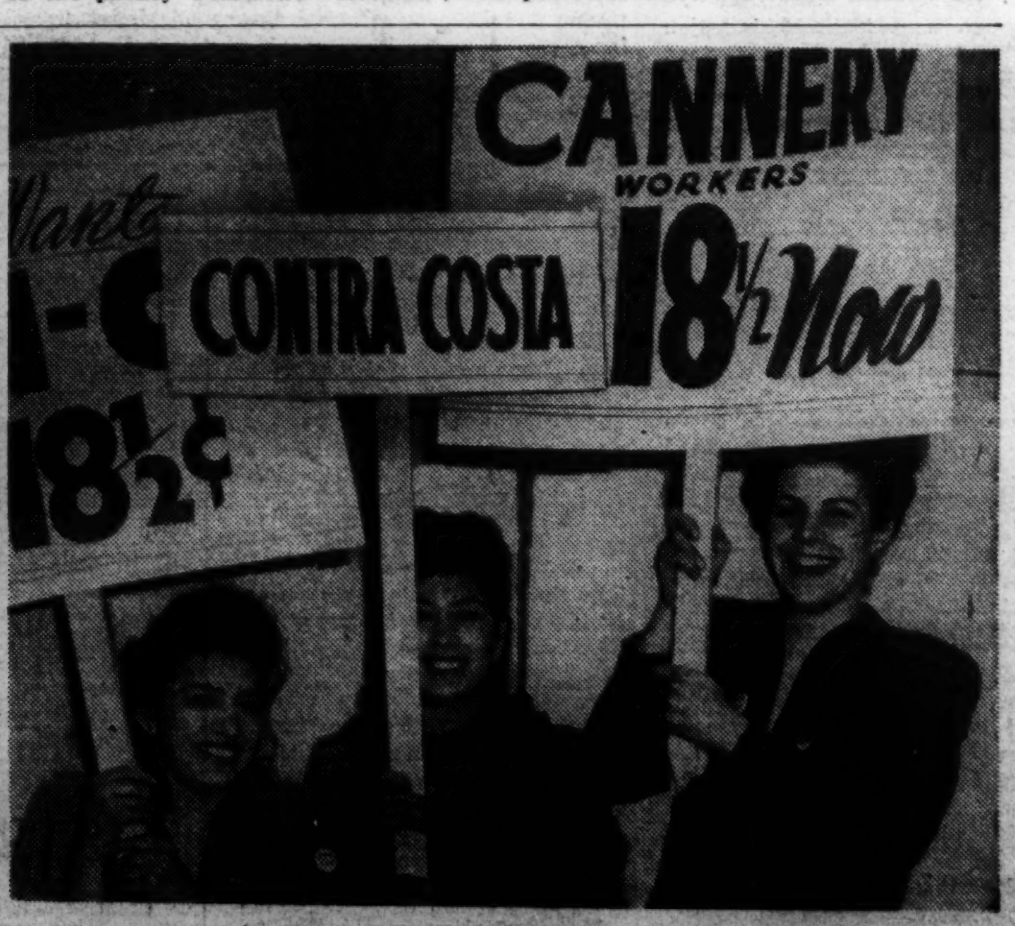
"It is estimated that there are now two dozen imported Teamster goons in the Modesto area alone for the purpose of impos-

(Continued on page 8)

No. 1 ON FTA's AGENDA is getting desperately needed food packed on time. Despite the AFL Teamsters' phoney "blockade" thrown around the canneries in Northern California, the spinach crop was canned. "Blockade" was a failure, even though employers tried to help out by announcing they "couldn't accept" produce. Now FTA demands a free and fair election, an end to the Teamster-employer gang-up against the workers and against food production. Incidentally, cannery employers take the pious attitude that all they want to do is to produce. This has been their line with government officials, in which they pose as "innocent bystanders caught in the middle of a jurisdicitional row between unions." The pose would be somewhat more convincing if the same employers were not back of the phoney Teamsters "blockade", as repeated evidence has shown them to be.



CIO CANNERY WORKERS come from many racial and national groups. Women workers are in the majority in sorting and canning jobs, men in the maintenance and mechanical jobs. They have this in common—low wages, long hours, little security. These conditions are due to AFL-employer deals which began years ago, are now being upset by FTA-CIO's militant organizing drive for a free election.



CIO SUPPORT for FTA's California cannery drive is always forthcoming. In Washington, CIO President Philip Murray has put the national CIO behind the campaign for a free election. On the West Coast, brother CIO unions join FTA's demonstrations. Here Rosalie Norton (center), of the CIO Fishermen, joins her FTA sisters in front of California Processors and Growers, the bosses' organization.

FROM WASHINGTON

What The Tories Want

By C. W. FOWLER, Editor and Publicity Director

The Republican-Southern Democrat coalition in Congress did a pretty thorough wrecking job on price control last week in the House of Representatives.

Between them, the reactionary GOP members from the north and their equally reactionary Democratic friends from the South have produced a bill which, if it is allowed to stand, will cut the wages of every worker in this country by 50% and more.

Ignoring last minute appeals of Truman Administration leaders, the coalition went ahead to produce a guaranteed inflation for everybody and guaranteed profits for the few.

They did this by passing two major amendments to the price control act as it now stands; one removing subsidies that have been used to keep down the cost of food and the other guaranteeing a cost-plus profit on every single item of goods sold in this country under price control.

How Do They Get That Way?

The vote was a sizable one—259 to 137 for the guaranteed profits amendment offered by Rep. Jesse Wolcott (R. Mich.) and substantially the same for the other crippling changes. A sizable vote, though not quite big enough to over-ride a Presidential veto.

The vote was taken despite repeated warnings from the CIO and other progressive consumer groups that crippling OPA means first inflation and then, after a short period of a wild boom (with plenty of unemployment on the side), a crash the like of which this country has never seen before.

Yet every Congressman who voted for inflation via the Wolcott amendments professes to fear inflation as he fears the plague. Every one of them makes at least a dozen speeches a month professing his horror at the very thought of an inflation such as we had after World War I, when the cost of living doubled in the two years after 1918.

Still they voted for the very thing they profess to fear. Why?

Inflation, Depression, Fascism

Part of the reason is the extreme hatred many of these men have for organized labor. They think of labor not as human beings but as enemies who have to be crushed. The CIO has won wage increases; therefore, in the reasoning of these Congressmen, we must take away those wage increases by price increases.

Another part of the reason is sheer greed. They — and more importantly, the forces such as the NAM behind the anti-OPA campaign — see a chance for a quick killing through inflation, and they're determined to take it, and to hell with what happens to the country.

Behind it all, however, is something more sinister than even these two leading motives. Big and powerful forces in this country want an inflation and a depression for political reasons.

They want an inflation and a crash in order to pave the way for fascism. These forces know that inflation and crisis went ahead of Nazism in Germany. They saw how the standard of living was first destroyed in Germany and the resulting misery exploited by the Nazis and their industrialist paymasters. And then they saw how these same big business forces in Germany cleaned up under Nazism and how they almost conquered the world in the resulting war.

Many of them would like to try the same thing here, feeling confident that the U. S. could "win" such a war as fascism would promote.

How They Can Be Stopped

The Congressmen who voted for inflation—and a good many of their colleagues in the Senate would do the same, if we let them—think they can get away with it because they think the people are not awake to what's going on.

It's up to us to disabuse them of that idea. As President Henderson has told all FTA locals: "Drastic measures are called for. We must act at once. Reach your Senator in Washington and your Congressman at home with this appeal to protect us from disastrous inflation."

And, let us add, don't forget the voting record of your Congressman and your Senators when they come up for election this fall.

This Is Your Paper

FTA News is your paper, written and edited to serve and interest you.

The only way FTA News can do its job is with your help.

This means we need news and reports from every region, every council, every local.

It also means that we need your criticism, your comments and your requests. Write and tell us what you want in th paper, what you like or don't like about it, what you feel it needs.

That way, we can have a paper that wi'l help our union grow and help you to get a better break on the job.

Send letters to FTA News, Room 418, 1505 Race St., Philadelphia 2, Pa.

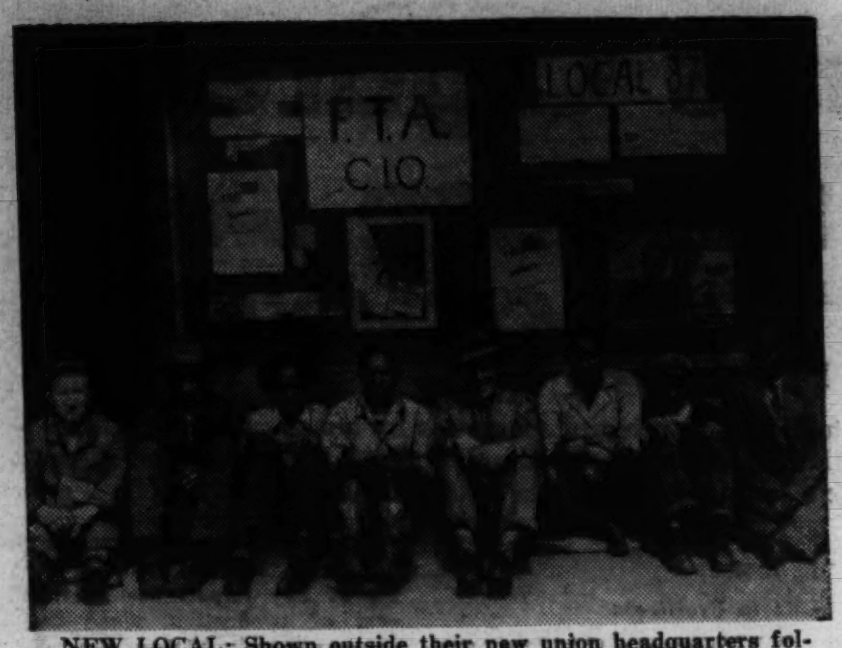
They Voted For Hunger

This is the vote in the House that sent a mangled price control bill to the Senate—where it faces further slashing attack from reactionary Democrats and tory Republicans.

There were two key votes taken. One, labelled, "Cost Plus" would require OPA to guarantee an inflationary profit on every single item of goods sold to the public. The other, labelled "Subsidies" would end U.S. government payments on food products that have helped keep food prices down.

Together, the two votes add up to guaranteed inflation. Only the widest possible protest from the voters can now save price control in the Senate. Wire your two Senators at once, telling them to reject the House version of the price control renewal bill and vote for price control renewal for one year without any amendments whatever.

State	*Name*	*Cost Plus*	*Subsidies*
Arizona	Richard Harless (D)	wrong	right
	John R. Murdock (D)	right	right
Arkansas	E. C. Gathings (D)	wrong	wrong
	Brooks Hays (D)	right	right
California	J. Leroy Johnson (R)	wrong	wrong
	Frank Havenner (D)	right	right
	Richard Welch (R)	right	right
	George Miller (D)	no vote	no vote
	John H. Tolan (D)	right	right
	Jack A. Anderson (R)	wrong	wrong
	Bertrand W. Gearhart (R)	wrong	wrong
	Alfred J. Elliott (D)	wrong	wrong
	George E. Outland (D)	right	right
	Jerry Voorhis (D)	right	wrong
	Ned R. Healy (D)	right	right
	Helen G. Douglas (D)	right	right
	Gordon McDonough (R)	wrong	wrong
	Ellis R. Patterson (D)	right	right
	Cecil R. King (D)	right	right
	Ed. V. Izac (D)	no vote	no vote
Colorado	Wm. S. Hill (R)	wrong	wrong
Connecticutt	James Geelan (D)	right	right
Florida	J. Hardin Peterson (D)	no vote	no vote
	Emory Price (D)	wrong	wrong
	Pat Cannon (D)	right	right
	Joe Hendricks (D)	wrong	wrong
Illinois	Emily T. Douglas (D)	right	right
	Wm. L. Dawson (D)	right	right
	Wm. A. Rowan (D)	no vote	right
	Edward A. Kelly (D)	wrong	right
	Martin Gorski (D)	right	right
	Adolph Sabath (D)	no vote	right
	Thomas J. O'Brien (D)	right	right
	Wm. W. Link (D)	right	right
	Thomas S. Gordon (D)	right	right
	Chauncey Reed (R)	wrong	wrong
	Noah Mason (R)	wrong	no vote
	Leo Allen (R)	wrong	wrong
	Jessie Sumner (R)	wrong	wrong
	Cecil Bishop (R)	wrong	wrong
Indiana	George Gillie (R)	wrong	wrong
	Forest A. Harness (R)	wrong	wrong
	Gearald W. Landis (R)	wrong	wrong
	Charles LaFollette (R)	right	right
	Raymond Springer (R)	wrong	wrong
	Louis Ludlow (D)	right	right
Iowa	Henry O. Talle (R)	wrong	wrong
	John Gwynne (R)	wrong	wrong
	Karl M. LeCompte (R)	wrong	wrong
Kentucky	Noble J. Gregory (D)	right	right
Louisiana	Paul H. Maloney (D)	wrong	right
	F. Edward Hebert (D)	wrong	wrong
Michigan	Roy Woodruff (R)	wrong	wrong
	George Sadowski (D)	right	right
	George D. O'Brien (D)	right	right
	Louis Rabaut (D)	right	right
	John Dingell (D)	right	right
	John Lesinski (D)	right	right
	Albert Engel (R)	wrong	wrong
	Jesse Wolcott (R)	wrong	wrong
	Fred Crawford (R)	wrong	wrong
	Frank Hook (D)	right	right
Minnesota	Walter H. Judd (R)	wrong	wrong
	Wm. J. Gallagher (D)	right	right
Mississippi	Wm. Whittington (D)	wrong	wrong
	Dan R. McGehee (D)	wrong	wrong
Missouri	Orville Zimmerman (D)	right	wrong
	Wm. C. Cole (R)	wrong	wrong
New Jersey	Charles Wolverton (R)	right	right
	Clifford Case (R)	wrong	wrong
	Fred A. Hartley, Jr. (R)	wrong	wrong
	Frank L. Sundstrom (R)	wrong	wrong
	Robert Kean (R)	right	wrong
	James Auchincloss (R)	wrong	wrong
	Frank A. Matthews, Jr. (R)	wrong	wrong
New York	Henry J. Latham (R)	wrong	wrong
	Wm. Barry (D)	right	right
	James A. Roe (D)	no vote	no vote
	James J. Delaney (D)	right	right
	John J. Delaney (D)	right	right
	Joseph L. Pfeifer (D)	right	right
	Eugene J. Keough (D)	right	right
	Andrew L. Somers (D)	right	right
	James Heffernan (D)	right	right
	John J. Rooney (D)	right	right
	Donald O'Toole (D)	right	right
	Leo F. Rayfiel (D)	right	right
	Emmanuel Celler (D)	right	right
	Ellsworth Buck (R)	wrong	wrong
	Joseph C. Baldwin (R)	right	right
	Vito Marcantonio (ALP)	right	right
	Sol Bloom (D)	right	right
	James Torrens (D)	right	right
	Adam C. Powell, Jr. (D)	right	right
	Walter Lynch (D)	right	right
	Benjamin Rabin (D)	right	right
	Charles A. Buckley (D)	right	right
	Peter A. Quinn (D)	right	right
	George F. Rogers (D)	right	right
	Walter Andrews (R)	no vote	no vote
No. Carolina	John C. Butler (R)	wrong	wrong
Ohio	John H. Fogler (D)	right	right
	Wm. E. Hess (R)	wrong	wrong
	Edw. Gardner (D)	wrong	right
	Robert F. Jones (R)	no vote	wrong
	Cliff Clevenger (R)	wrong	wrong
	Clarence J. Brown (R)	wrong	wrong
	Frederick C. Smith (R)	wrong	wrong
	Homer Ramey (R)	wrong	wrong
	Walter B. Huber (D)	right	right
	George Bender (R)	wrong	wrong
	Homer Angell	wrong	right
Oregon	Robert L. Rodgers (R)	no vote	no vote
	James Wolfenden (R)	wrong	wrong
Pennsylvania	J. Roland Kinzer (R)	wrong	wrong
	Wm. A. Barrett (D)	right	right
	Wm. T. Granahan (D)	right	right
	Michael J. Bradley (D)	right	right
	John E. Sheridan (D)	no vote	no vote
	Wm. Joseph Green (D)	right	right
	Herbert McGlinchey (D)	right	right
	Howard Campbell (R)	wrong	wrong
	Robert Corbett (R)	wrong	wrong
	James G. Fulton (R)	right	right
	Herman Eberharter (D)	right	right
	Chester Gross (R)	wrong	wrong
	L. Mendel Rivers (D)	wrong	wrong
So. Carolina	Tom Murray (D)	wrong	wrong
Tennessee	Clifford Davis (D)	no vote	no vote
	James P. Priest (D)	right	right
	Albert Thomas (D)	wrong	right
Texas	Milton West (D)	wrong	wrong
	Fred Kilday (D)	wrong	wrong
	Ralph Daughton (D)	wrong	wrong
Virginia	J. Vaughan Gary (D)	wrong	right
	Hugh De Lacy (D)	right	right
Washington	Jennings Randolph (D)	wrong	right
West Virginia	Matthew Neely (D)	right	right
	Merlin Hull (Prog.)	right	right
Wisconsin	Thad Wasielewski (D)	right	wrong
	Andrew Biemiller (D)	right	right
	Frank B. Keefe (R)	wrong	wrong
	John Byrnes (R)	wrong	wrong
	Wm. Stevenson (R)	wrong	wrong
	Lawrence Smith (R)	wrong	wrong



NEW LOCAL: Shown outside their new union headquarters following the signing of Local 87's first contract with the Lord Mott cannery in Baltimore, Md., are negotiating committee members (l. to r.) Michael Rapko, Judson McDaniels, Jesse Cabiness, Nathan Brown, Int. Org. Harold Kotzger, Hester Dixon, Antonio Lopez and Marion Pack.

Alaska Strike Forced By 'Ridiculous Offer'

By Wendell Phillips, Jr., Regional Director

Seattle—In an effort to bring the Alaska salmon industry to negotiate the union's demands, Local 7 and six FTA Alaska locals launched a strike at midnight, April 20, tying up all ships hauling cannery supplies or cannery workers to Alaska. The strike has the complete support of all maritime and other CIO unions.

"The Alaska Salmon Industry, Inc., must accept full responsibility for this strike action," the publicity committee representing the seven locals declared in a release to the press.

"Negotiations came to a halt on April 9, when Walter Fuhrer, representing the Industry, flatly stated that the industry refused to negotiate on any of the union's demands."

FTA has agreed to accept a 20c an hour increase in place of its original demand for 30%. However, the industry has not budged on the 9% take-it-or-leave-it offer which it made early in March. Such an offer was termed "totally inacceptable" by the union.

Wartime Contract

The contract, signed in 1942, has a termination clause continuing the contract in effect until the "end of the year in which the President declares cessation of hostilities," and provides automatic increases based on increases in the cost of living recorded by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

While the industry, claiming the contract is still in effect, refuses to negotiate on wages, the union maintains that the contract was signed during the war to insure full production and to expedite victory. Now that the war is over, the contract has expired.

In addition, the union maintains that an increase in accordance with cost of living figures of the BLS is insufficient and out of line with the national wage raise pattern established in the auto, steel and electrical industries. Such an increase, amounting to nine percent over last year, would mean six cents an hour in the lowest bracket.

"Ridiculous Offer"

"With the cost of living what it is today, our membership cannot even support themselves, let alone their wives and children, on this ridiculous offer," the union declared.

Other demands include a 40-hour week and an increase in stand-by pay from $25 to $50. Stand-by pay compensates members for time lost in Seattle while waiting to ship out for the Alaska canneries.

In the face of an Alaska food shortage, the union has agreed to clear all ships other than those hauling cannery supplies and workers for the Alaska canneries. However, the steamship operators refuse to give any such assurances. The industry and local press are trying to place the blame for the current food shortage in Alaska on the union.

All FTA locals are urged to wire President Truman and urge him to request steamship operators to give assurances that no scabs or cannery supplies will be hauled so that ships carrying food may be cleared by the union.

Unity Won In American Strike

By Armando Ramidez, International Vice-President

The workers of Henry Clay & Bock — American Tobacco Co. — have won a great strike, forcing the company to give them the highest increase in wages that they have received in the history of the company.

In the hand department, cigar makers and bunch makers have received from 33c to 55c per 100 cigars. This, in additional to an increase of 7% received on August 3, 1945, when the contract was signed.

Machine operators obtained a raise from $1.61 to $1.87½ per 1,000 cigars, in addition to the increase of August 3rd when the price was raised by the union from $1.00 to $1.01. This makes a total increase of 37½c per thousand during the life of the present agreement.

The same rate of increase apply to workers in all other departments. Week workers have received a total increase of 22c per hour since the shop was organized by FTA-CIO.

The following gains have also been won: One and two week vacations with pay. Six holidays off with pay, with double time paid if workers are called upon to work on holidays.

From the day that the NLRB conducted the election that our union won; four and one-half to one, the main activity of the union was to organize the unorganized and at the same time of the beginning of the strike only five workers in the bargaining unit were not members in good standing.

Recognition must be given to Local 186 in Philadelphia and Local 15 in Charleston for the wonderful struggle waged by them in this strike. Equal recognition must be given to the locals and officers of the FTA who gave invaluable assistance in the way of financial and moral support and by placing the American Tobacco Company products on the "unfair to labor list."

This healthy condition made it possible for the workers to remain out on strike for 5 and one-half months. Their unity in the long struggle focused on Local 56 the admiration of all workers and labor leaders who were familiar with the situation.

Upon resumption of work, this unity is even stronger than that shown at the beginning of the strike; and the workers are ready for November 1, 1946, when they will negotiate for new wage rates.

FTA news

Published twice a month from September to July inclusive and monthly in August at 838 Greenwich Street New York 14, N. Y. by the

FOOD, TOBACCO, AGRICULTURAL AND ALLIED WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA, CIO

affiliated with the Congress of Industrial Organizations

1505 Race Street
Philadelphia 2, Pa.
(Address all communications to Philadelphia office.)

DONALD HENDERSON
General President
HAROLD J. LANE
General Secretary-Treasurer

Vice-Presidents
Lewis Bentsley
John Mack Dyson
Louis F. Jedlicka
Luisa Moreno
Otis Nation (on leave)
Armando Ramirez
Robbie Mae Riddick
Dixie Tiller
Armando Valdes
Owen H. Whitfield

Editor: C. W. Fowler

Subscription:
$1 a year to non-members

"Reentered as second class matter December 30, 1944, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879."

NEXT ISSUE: Material must be in by 9 a.m. May 6.

Vol. VI, No. 9 May 1, 1946

Victory Aids Organizing

Philadelphia, Pa. — Settlement of the American Tobacco strike and the new high in wages established in the contract is spurring the drive to organize the workers at the Bayuk Cigar plant, the largest in Philadelphia.

In a leaflet distributed at the Bayuk plant recently, Local 186 told the workers that "our victory is your victory—and the victory of every worker in the tobacco industry."

It urged the Bayuk workers to join FTA to "protect our rates, bring yours up, and guarantee that none of us will be cut in the future . . ."

'Battle for Survival'

Charleston, S.C.—Following settlement of the American Tobacco strike here, Local 15 sent a letter of thanks to the members of Local 22 in Winston-Salem who contributed in support of the strike.

"We have won a battle for survival and better conditions against one of the largest and wealthiest corporations in America. We did it with your help . . ." the letter said.

New Local Signs First FTA Pact In Baltimore

By Harold Kotzger, Int. Org.

Baltimore — Members of newly-chartered Local 87 hailed the contract signed with the Lord Mott cannery on April 10 as a great step forward in the organization of the substandard cannery industry here. It is the first signed by FTA in Baltimore.

Union recognition; a 10c per hour wage increase for all employees, retroactive to February 22; and a no-discrimination clause were the principal features of the contract. Piece work rates for tomato skinners were raised from 12c to 14c per bucket, and six holidays were won with time-and-a-half pay for holidays and Sundays worked.

Two weeks' vacation with pay for five years, and one week's vacation with pay for employes who have worked 1,800 hours during the previous 12 months, were also won.

The no-discrimination clause specifically mentions "no discrimination for union activity, race, creed, color, national origin or political affiliation."

Other provisions in the contract include an automatic increase for male employees to 10c per hour higher than the legal minimum established with passage of the Pepper-Hook bill; two hours' call-in pay; seniority for regular employes plus super-senority for stewards and union officers; and leaves of absence for union business.

In addition, seasonal workers will have the opportunity for promotion to regular employe's status. Promotions to regular status will be reviewed every three months and based on 1,800 hours worked during the preceding 12 month period.

Grievance machinery was set up with recourse to arbitration. The contract is to run for one year with an automatic renewal clause.

Members of the negotiating committee are: Nathan Brown, Jesse Cabiness, Hester Dixon, Antonio Lopez, Judson McDaniels, Marion Pack and Michael Rapko. They were assisted by Int. Org. Harold Kotzger.

Local 80 Wins Break For Vets At Campbell's

By Anthony Valentino, Business Agent

Camden, N.J.—Coming forward again as the champion of returned veterans, Local 80 recently got the Campbell Soup Company to agree to an apprenticeship training program for veterans in the maintenance department.

After more than two months of negotiation, agreement was reached to set up a program in accordance with Public Law 346 whereby mechanics' helpers in the various crafts shall be paid the prevailing first class mechanics rate.

The company will pay the prevailing helpers rate, with the Veterans Administration in addition paying subsistence payments of $65 a month for single vets and $90 to vets with dependents.

Dispute on the program arose when the company wanted to include a knowledge of arc and gas welding in all crafts except carpenter as a requirement to become a mechanic, to limit the number of vets taking the course to 15, and to pay only a third class mechanics rate.

However, the union won on each point, making all vets who formerly worked as maintenance helpers eligible for the course at first class mechanics rate of pay.

Local 15 Thanks All Who Aided In Strike

By Ruel Stanfield

Charleston, S.C.—"The members of Local 15 wish at this time to extend their heartfelt thanks and gratitude for your support of the strike against the American Tobacco Company," Local 15 President Reuel Stanfield wrote in a letter to all contributors and supporters of the strike.

"What you have done will be thought of by every worker who sits down to a meal that consists of more nourishing food, by every child that has better and more protective clothing, and by every mother who sees healthier children about the home," he said.

"We all know the obstacles put in the path of progress, the traps set to prevent a higher standard of living in the South. Every trick and conceivable influence was used to prevent the strikers from winning a wage increase. But despite all the opposition, the workers are now earning 8c an hour more.

"The first round in the battle for a more prosperous Charleston and for a more progressive Southland has been won.

"Once again we wish to thank you for your part in helping us win our fight for a living wage and security in the future."

Henderson To Speak In Detroit

Philadelphia—Donald Henderson, FTA General President, will speak at the 10th anniversary convention of the National Negro Congress convention in Detroit, May 31, it was announced here.

The NNC Convention, called to draft a program to deal "a death blow to Jim Crow," will take place in Detroit, Mich., May 30 to June 2, according to NNC executive secretary Revels Cayton.

Among the points to be discussed in the program for action are: equal jobs and economic security for the Negro people; protection of the rights of Negro farm labor to organize; strengthening the working unity between the Negro people and the trade union movement, including full support to the CIO organizing drive in the South; passage of the Anti-Poll Tax Bill, the Wagner-Murray-Dingell Social Security Bill, the 65c minimum wage bill, etc.

Also, an end to police violence against Negro citizens and organized labor; full application of the GI Bill of Rights for Negro veterans without discrimination; freedom for colonial peoples and American-Soviet friendship as the basis for peace.

"The fight against Jim Crow at home is a strike at colonial oppression everywhere," the convention call declared. "Now is the time to act! . . . We must mobilize the militant millions of our people . . . to defeat the enemies of freedom and security."

SENATOR BULLHEAD

"When I was a young man, I was glad to work for $2 a week . . ."
The Advance

FTA Hits Cigaret Price Increase As $100,000,000 Gift

OPA's reported plan to hike the price of cigarettes by an extra 25c per 1,000—which will work out to one half cent per pack—simply means handing the already enormously profitable tobacco companies an extra $100,000,000 in gravy, FTA President Henderson said this week in a letter to OPA Administrator Paul Porter.

This is the total, Henderson pointed out, that the companies will get when you consider that they have already received tax relief to the tune of $23,000,000. And this, he added, goes to "one of the lowest paid" as well as one of the most highly profitable industries in the nation.

"According to OPA's Division of Research," Henderson wrote, "six of the largest tobacco firms making cigarettes are now returning 19.7% of their net worth in profits.

"Sales of the 'Big Five' (American, Reynolds, Liggett, Lorillard, Morris) are up 83% over 1939. There is every indication that sales will increase substantially in 1946, and further indications are that new machinery will greatly cut production costs.

"In the same period, he added, profits have jumped from an average (before taxes) of $100,000,000 in 1939 to $130,568,000 in 1944.

Gift to Profiteers

"OPA's latest gift to profiteers will be added on to the presents that a loving Congress has already given industry by repeal of the excess profits tax and the straight five percent cut in corporation profits taxes, Henderson's letter said.

"It is thus clear that cigarette manufacturers will receive more than $100,000,000 in additional profits through the combined operation of tax relief and price increases.

"Cigarette manufacturers cannot claim that wages are a factor of any importance in their cost of production, since they amount to only 2.5% of the total and are below standards in other industries.

"The reported increase in the price of cigarettes to the consumer cannot be defended on grounds of 'hardship' or necessity. It does not seem to us either reasonable or fair that such an industry, one of the most notoriously low paid in the nation, should be rewarded with an additional $100,000,000 in profits at this time."

This Will Make You Cry (It Says Here)

This is designed to make your heart bleed for the poor harassed executive . . .

Or at least the Wall Street Journal's heart is bleeding, even if yours isn't.

It has to do with the terrible time big business executives are having getting along on their $25,000 and $50,000 a year (and up) salaries, now that purchasing power has gone down due to the rise in the cost of living.

In case you thought YOU were the only ones to be bothered by HCL and the latest attacks on price control in Congress, read this—and weep. Says the Wall Street Journal:

'Socked far harder by war-cost taxes than any other group, salaried executives can only get real help, of course, from lowered taxes . . .

"Walter S. Gifford, president of the American Telephone Co., had a salary of $206,000 in 1939, and about the same in 1945. (Mr. Gifford's bonuses aren't mentioned. Ed.)

"The 1939 income left him about $106,750 after taxes; the same earnings in 1946 will leave him less than $43,000 after taxes.

"To maintain his buying power at the 1939 level, Mr. Gifford would have to get a salary this year of about $843,000."

But in case you might think the Wall Street Journal is going all out for a general wage increase, just look at what the editorial on the same page in the same issue (March 28) has to say about the 65-75c minimum wage bill now in Congress.

The Wall Street Journal thinks the bill is bad, definitely. "Wage Minimums Can Hurt," it says, not only the country but also the workers who get them. And it's opposed to setting them any higher than 55c—only accepting that with doubts and qualms.

It seems that here's a case of what's good for business isn't good for labor.

Give $100 To Help In Tennessee

Winston-Salem—A contribution of $100 to help the fight for justice in Columbia, Tenn., was voted at a recent meeting of Local 22's executive board. The local's action was taken after a report on the Washington conference to protest the police and state guard raids on the Negro community of Columbia.

Lottie Herndon, an ex-WAC and member of Local 22's Veterans Committee, reported that delegates from 60 organizations participated in the conference. Hundreds of organizations and prominent citizens are demanding a complete government investigation of the raids and that those responsible be brought to justice. In addition, they are demanding that all who were injured or who lost property in the raid be reimbursed.

LABOR'S WORLD

World Unions Urge Working Class Unity

PARIS, (ALN) — The World Federation of Trade Unions called upon "the workers of the world, men and women, young and old" this week to dedicate the May 1, 1946 international labor holiday to "spreading the trade union movement in all countries as a force of social progress and human emancipation."

The WFTU call stressed the importance of this year's demonstration of world labor solidarity because "international trusts and the forces of conservatism are lining up to deprive the peoples of the world of the fruits of the victory won by the democracies over fascism." The call says:

"On the occasion of May 1, 1946, the WFTU appeals to all workers of the world. At the end of World War II, workers of both sexes and all ages who have been suffering from the war in their persons and in the moral and material possessions aspire to humanly higher and socially more equitable standards of life.

"Throughout the world trade union organizations are the center of all action concerning: respect of human life; organization of social security; the fight against poverty; efforts to reduce social ills; maintenance and stabilization of peace; currents leading the peoples towards their legitimate national independence.

"The WFTU was born in the trial of the last efforts by free peoples necessary to achieve military victory over Nazism, fascism and Japanese militarism This Federation is the consecration of the great workers' hope: the realization of integration trade union unity among all forces of organized workers.

The WFTU, the first world organization of workers whose radiations are well-nigh universal, greets the pioneers of international unity of all workers. Not only does it remind them of the need for unity but it also invites them to work for:

"Triumph of popular freedom: total victory of democracy over all forms of fascism and social reaction under whatever name it may be covered: total and complete donazificatien of Germany: more just distribution of wealth produced by work and higher purchasing power for all salaried people."

SAVE YOUR WAGES

Asks Quick, Drastic Action On Price Law

An urgent letter went out this week from President Henderson asking immediate, drastic action to save the price control act from the wrecking job done on it in the House of Representatives.

Time is short, the letter pointed out, but a job must be done now to persuade the Senate to reject the crippling House amendments or we will lose "the wage increases we are winning through painful struggle."

Text of the letter to all FTA locals and councils follows:

The House of Representatives has just killed price control and destroyed the wage increases we are winning through painful struggle. If the Senate and the President cannot check this drive, the country is faced with dangerous inflation. The House majority betrayed the American People by passing a series of crippling amendments which will send the cost of living sky-high.

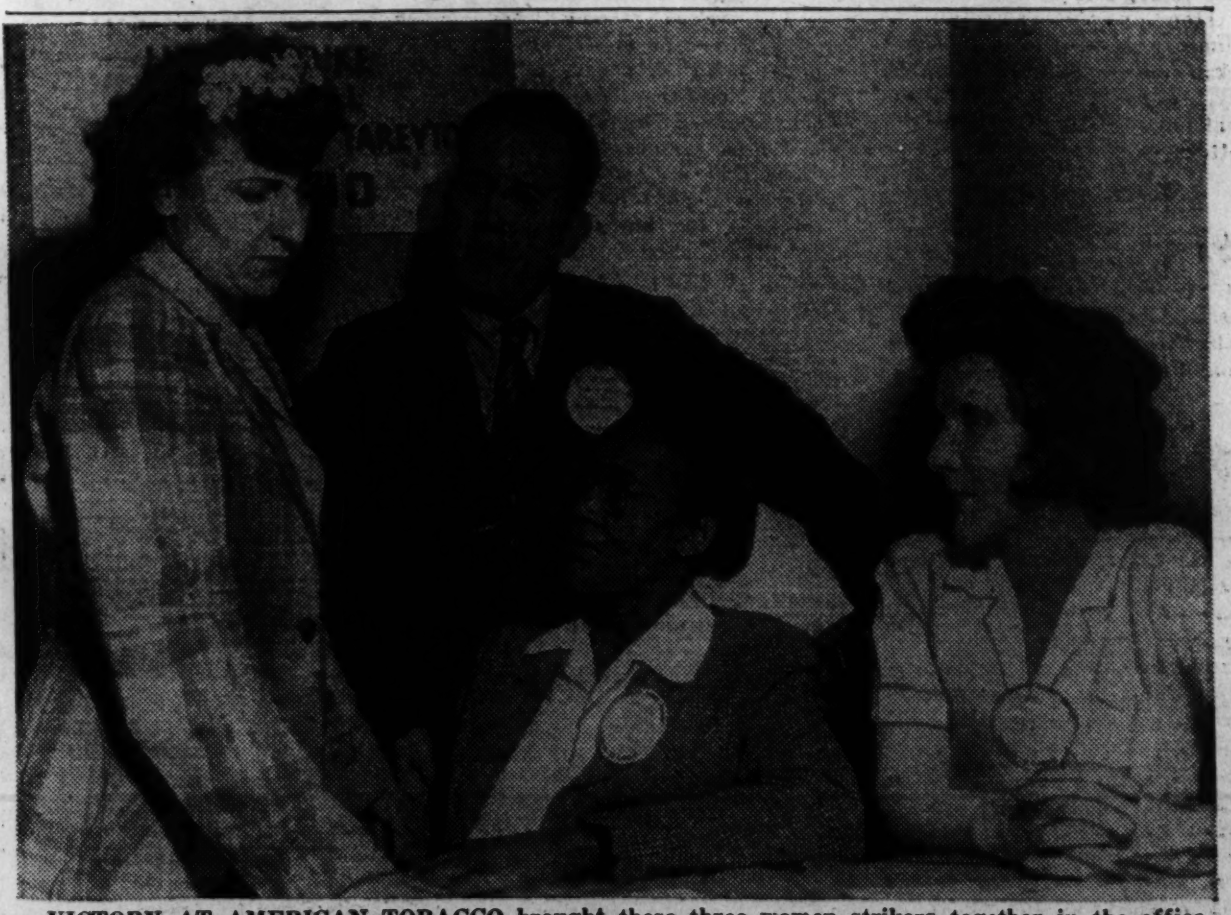
Drastic measures are called for! We must act at once! Congressmen will be home in their Districts next week and the people must mobilize to protest their action and demand the passage of a strong price control Act in the Senate and when the bill comes back to the House.

I call upon every FTA member, through the local union and through your Industrial Union Council to rally the people of your community in a mass expression of support for price control and of those Congressmen who voted to maintain it.

Reach your Senator in Washington and your Congressman at home with this appeal to protect us from disastrous inflation.

San Diego, Calif.—Eleven more workers received steady work during the slack season at the Van Camp Sea Food Co., as the result of the solidarity of Local 64 members.

Northeastern Regional Council Meeting: The meeting has been postponed until Sunday, May 5, at 10 a.m. Place: Roman Hall, Butler Street and Whittaker Ave., Trenton, N. J.



VICTORY AT AMERICAN TOBACCO brought these three women strikers together in the office of Local 273 to compare notes on the settlement. Left to right are: Florence Mercantini, Local 56, Trenton; Cerferino Lugo, Local 273, New York; Irene Reid, Local 15, Charleston; and Dorothy Brittingham, Local 186, Philadelphia. The girls were in New York soliciting support from the New York trade unions when news of the settlement came.

HITLER STYLE is this California cannery plant near Modesto ringed round with barbed wire and bearing a "No Tresspassing" sign directly aimed at FTA-CIO organizers. Management puts up barbed wire fences not only against workers but also against the U. S. Government — by refusing to obey Natl. Labor Relations Board orders and continuing to make backdoor deals with AFL Teamsters in a vain effort to block genuine organization. Workers coming out are met by Warren Lea (left), laid off for favoring CIO and two FTA representatives, Warren Horie (hand on fencepost) and Jack Montgomery.

New Evidence In Arkansas Terror

By Frank Hargrove, Regional Director

Little Rock, Ark. — New evidence unearthed in the murder of Walter Campbell, Southern Cotton Oil Co. striker, throws doubt on the Grand Jury's acquitta. of Otha Williams on the grounds of self-defense, and raises the possibility of reopening the case.

An eye witness to the murder (whose name is being withheld for his safety) signed an affidavit recently, stating that from a distance of 30 to 40 feet he saw Campbell attacked by three men, not one, as formerly charged.

The witness, a worker at the plant, claims that he held back until now in fear of being taken to Granite Mountain, a notorious spot where in the past police and the KKK are known to have taken Negroes to be beaten and hanged.

"I was standing on Ninth Street near Fairview about 20 minutes to 6 pm," the signed affidavit declared. "While standing there I saw Otha Williams, L. V. Williams and one other person whose name I do not know, fighting with Campbell. When the fighting was over, Campbell lay on the sidewalk lifeless."

Campbell's murder occurred on Dec. 26, two blocks away from the plant which Local 98 members were peacefully picketing. The scab, Williams, who was accused of his murder was set free.

Five union members were indicted under the Christian-American sponsored "Anti-Violence Law." On March 19, three of the indicted union members were sentenced to one year in the state penitentiary. The union is appealing their case.

Notes from Locals

Keep OPA

22 Winston-Salem, N. C.— Aroused by the current sabotage of price control, Local 22 sent letters to President Truman, Chester Bowles, Senators Josiah Bailey and Clyde Hoey, Congressman John Folger and to the local newspapers, urging that "rigid price control be continued."

"We urge no further weakening or relaxation of price control on any items," the letters said.

New Officers

68 Saginaw, Mich.—Local 68 recently announced the installation of new officers for the year. The are: Robert Wirsing, Pres.; Frank Nickel, Vice-Pres.; Russell Lauer, Fin. Secy.; and Ella Welzein, Rec. Secy.

Set Up State PAC

87 Baltimore, Md. — Antonio Lopez and Rosalie Tyler represented FTA at a meeting of 200 CIO delegates which esttablished a permanent Maryland State CIO-PAC on April 7.

The conference unanimously endorsed the CIO Executive Board resolution calling for local PAC's to study and select good candidates, support good candidates in the primary and general elections, to intensify the drive to register all workers, and to step up the campaign for voluntary $1 PAC contributions.

Machinery was also set up for city, congressional district, and local union Political Action Committees in Maryland.

New Officers

91 New Orleans, La.—Newly elected officers of Local 91 are: Elizabeth Salisbury, Pres.; Albert Delpit, Vice-Pres.; Katie Scott, Rec. Secy.; and Regina Bozonier, Secy.-Treas.

Hear Lane

207 Brooklyn, N. Y.—At a recent meeting of Local 207, Internat'l Secy.-Treas. Harold J. Lane spoke on the provisions of the GI Bill of Rights and of the campaign for a 65c minimum wage. Also present at the meeting was Regional Director Armando Ramirez.

297 Toledo, Ohio — Newly elected officers for Local 297 are: Darrell Fisher, Pres.; Stanley Kaiser, Vice-Pres.; William Snyder, Rec. Secy.; Frank Kaminski, Fin. Secy.; and Doris Frederick. Treas.

A welcome home party was held recently at the union hall for our returned servicemen William Snyder, Harold Smith, Wilbur Denn, Frank Mateyunas and James Tooman.

By Virginia Lee, Reporter

Illinois Locals Run Trade Union Classes

By Jack Fox, Regional Director

Chicago, Ill.—Under the excellent supervision of the Trade Union Department of the Abraham Lincoln School, FTA Illinois locals are conducting trade union classes for officers and shop stewards at the union meeting halls.

These classes are led by Herman Schendel, trade union director of the Lincoln School. Classes consist of a shop steward course, an explanation of the CIO and the labor movement as a whole, and an analysis of the present wage fight of the CIO.

"These classes will go far in building good leadership among our locals," said Local 194 President John Gallacher. Enoch Kittle, Chief Shop Steward of Local 18 avers that "the trade union class is worth its weight in gold."

"I learned many things in this class that I never knew," said Herman Tragnitz, Chief Steward of Local 47. "Ought to have more of them," declares Hazel Hauser, Recording Secretary of Local 17.

Ask Election

By Tad Vincent, Int. Org.

Montgomery, Ala. — Although most of the workers at the Buckeye Cotton Oil plant here are temporarily out of work while the plant is undergoing repairs, almost everyone has contributed funds to send Vice-Chairman Robert Rogers to the FTA Southern Leadership Training School.

A petition for an NLRB election is being prepared to bring the election when the plant reopens in mid-July. Meanwhile, the union members are determined to have a strong union for effective negotiations. A shop committee was elected composed of Elijah Smith, Chairman; Robert Rogers, Vice-Chairman, and Amanda Bryant, Secy. Enthusiastic membership meetings are held every week.

Win Raise For Vets

By Lottie Davis, Reporter

Richmond, Va.—Two returned veterans got wage increases thanks to the efforts of the shop stewards of Local 57, at the Southern Biscuit Co. Arthur Claiborne received 7½c an hour increase retroactive to January 1, and Charles Virtz received a 2½c an hour raise retroactive to February 6.

105 New Brunswick, N. J.— As a result of a fund raising drive to aid the American Tobacco strikers, Local 105 totalled a $495 donation for strike aid. They raised the money through bingo parties, raffles, etc.

Mary Godrey, the Local President, was elected Business Agent.

By Helen Domiter, Reporter

Negotiations Begin On Raises At Libby

Blue Island, Ill.—Having won a wage increase of 7c an hour two months ago, Local 47 at the Libby McNiell and Libby plant here is now negotiating for increases to bring their pay into line with the pay of workers in other industries.

In addition, the union is asking for a union shop and higher night bonus pay. They are also seeking equal pay for equal work for women, with abolition of "women's rates" as such. Other demands include time-and-a-half pay for overtime at all times, abolishing seasonal exemption periods, which they have already delimited to 10 hours; improved vacation plan; higher premium earning rates and other contract improvements.

Members of the negotiating committee include Bill Baumbach, Pres.; Eddie Starks, Rose Cargello, Herman Tragnitz, Victor Anderson and George Kenney.

Local 11 Wins 8c Interim Increase

Lockport, Ill. — Local 11 recently won an eight cents an hour wage increase from the Northern Illinois Cereal Company, retroactive to January 1.

"This increase is only an interim gain," Local President Jack Besso declared. "The increase extends until July 1, at which time our local will be in there pitching for the rest."

Members of the negotiating committee include Besso, Norman Bezold, Michael Gleason, Ralph Swanson and Edward Thomas. They were assisted by Regional Director Jack Fox.

Swift Contract Socks North-South Differential

By Albert O'Brien, International Organizer

Harvey, La.—Another long step forward in breaking down the North-South wage diferential was made when Local 309 signed a contract with the Swift Fertilizer Company for a 16c to 23c raise, retroactive to February 28. The new contract establishes a minimum hourly wage of 76c.

Included in the wage gains are a 26% increase in piece work rates, additional increases of two and one-half to seven cents an hour for semi-skilled workers, time-and-a-half for Saturdays and holidays with double time pay for Sunday work, and four hours call-in pay.

In addition the contract provides for check-off, maintenance of membership, shop steward system and grievance machinery, and improved vacation schedules.

Employes at the plant are guaranteed 32 hours' pay a week.

Members of the negotiating committee were L. Richoux, S. Barbier, C. Folse, M. Davis and J. Green. They were assisted by Int. Org. Albert O'Brien.

Until it was organized by FTA, the Swift Fertilizer plant was known for its intolerable working conditions and extremely low wages, according to members of Local 309. Now it is just about the best job in the whole area.

To the workers who once used to be anti-union, FTA is tops. Nearly all of them can be seen proudly wearing their union buttons, even on their Sunday clothes. The plant is now 99% organized.

Interest in political action has also increased along with the growth of the union. Senator Ellender has been getting an earful for his opposition to the 65c minimum wage bill, in a community where he got support in the past.

King Cole Sweeter Now With FTA Contract

By James Sprags, Chairman King Cole Division, Local 194

Chicago, Ill.—King Cole candy products taste mighty sweet now that they are union made. Bargaining rights won there recently by Local 194 followed by the signing of a contract brought the workers a 10c an hour increase, vacations with pay, strict seniority and good grievance machinery.

Other gains include a five cents an hour night shift differential after three pm, voluntary checkoff, time-and-a-half pay over 40 hours and for six holidays worked, as well as accrued seniority and re-instatement for employes returned from the armed forces and preferential hiring for veterans.

Samuel Foster was the first worker in the plant to sign up members for the union, and he's been going strong ever since. At first he had to sign up members in secret. Then one fine day the company learned that 98% of the workers in the plant were union members.

Planned Strike

At a mass meeting, the workers voted to press for FTA bargaining rights and a contract. After two unsuccessful attempts to get the company to come to an agreement, the workers held another mass meeting at which they made plans for a strike.

On the day they were supposed to "hit the bricks," the bosses toured the plant to estimate the strength of the union. Everywhere the workers were wearing union buttons. There were only three scabs. That same morning the company met with the union and agreed on the major points in the contract.

A shop steward's staff has been set up with Samuel Foster, Jennie Bell Alexander, Lucy Williams and Chief Shop Steward Jim Sprags. Combined with the other divisions of Local 194, the King Cole workers are now planning to go in for political action in a big way.

110 Cedar Rapids, Iowa—In recognition of the fine job they have done, Local 110 recently tendered a banquet in honor of the officers and stewards of the Local. The banquet was held at the Hotel Roosevelt. Wally Post was the master of ceremonies. Short speeches were delivered by the officers, and entertainment and dancing followed.

By Agnes Dvorak, Reporter

CIO Sets Goal To Win '46 Vote

Meeting in Washington, D.C., late in April, the CIO Political Action Committee set its sights for victory in the '46 elections by adopting a program of progressive action on foreign and domestic policies.

This program, the CIO-PAC said, would be used as a yardstick "to measure the record of every candidate for office" and it urged all CIO members and other voters "to support those whose records carry the assurance that they will work with courage and vigor for its fulfillment, and to oppose those who forfeited the people's confidence by their failure to act in the people's interest."

Excerpts from the CIO-PAC program, which is based on the policies of FDR supported by the voters in 1944, follow:

Under the leadership of Franklin D. Roosevelt, our nation, together with our great allies, has won conclusive victory in the long war against the fascist powers.

Today we face the tasks of peace. They are no less difficult than those of war. They demand from the common people of America the utmost in understanding, devotion and effort, and the full and intelligent exercise of their rights of citizenship.

In November, 1946 we will elect a House of Representatives and one-third of the members of the Senate. The actions of this new Congress will largely determine whether or not our nation shall embark on a firm course of enduring peace in the world and an economy of plenty at home.

The CIO Political Action Committee submits herewith its program for 1946. It is a program which provides a firm foundation for stable peace, full employment, greater security and wider democracy for our nation. It is a program around which labor, together with Americans in all walks of life, can unite.

Foreign Policy

The will of all peoples is peace. The United Nations is the expression and the instrument of their will. The United Nations must command the full support of our nation and its people so that it may grow strong in the battle for peace.

The war-born unity of Great Britain, the Soviet Union and the United States was the key to our victory over the enemy. Their unity is no less essential if the United Nations is to be the sure guardian of the peace.

We repudiate all efforts calculated to weaken or destroy friendship and close collaboration among the Big Three. We reject proposals for American participation in any bloc or alliance which is inimical to their unity.

The partnership of Great Britain, the Soviet Union and the United States is founded upon and draws its strength from agreement to take common action in support of these fundamental principles:

- The destruction of the economic and social roots of fascism in Germany and Japan through the full implementation of the Potsdam decisions.
- Respect for the right of all peoples to choose the form of government under which they will live and absolute opposition to any form of aggression by any power.
- Restoration of sovereign rights and self-government to those who have been forcibly deprived of them.
- Furtherance of the enjoyment by all states of access on equal terms to the trade and to the raw materials of the world.

These principles must be the guideposts to American foreign policy. Firm adherence to these principles by all nations — not atomic weapons and armaments — is the path of peace.

We recognize that there are reactionary forces in our country which want to pursue a different path. They do not want the roots of fascism destroyed. They seek to use the great power of America to win world domination for themselves. These forces must be isolated and defeated. Their path is the path to war.

Spain and Argentina

The existence of fascism in Spain and Argentina is by no means exclusively an internal question for the oppressed people of these nations. As long as fascism exists anywhere, it constitutes a source of infection and a danger to the peace of free people and free nations everywhere. We urge the United Nations Security Council to take concerted action to quarantine those centers of fascist infection and to assist the people of Spain and Argentina to restore democratic rights and self-government.

Colonial Countries

We urge full American support of the just demands of the colonial peoples for the rights of self-determination and self-government.

World Federation of Unions

We urge American support for effective participation by the World Federation of Trade Unions in the work of the United Nations. The active assistance and support of world labor is essential to the task of building an enduring peace.

Domestic Affairs

Our great riches must be made to serve the whole people. They can do so only if our economy generates the mass purchasing power which will enable all Americans to enjoy the abundance our farms and factories are geared to produce. The program of CIO is directed to this end. It is directed against the forces of reaction whose program is abundance for a privileged few and want for the many.

At the war's end, living costs had risen more than double the increase in basic wage rates. Reconversion to peace-time employment carried with it a sharp decline in the purchasing power of the American worker.

In November, 1945, the CIO presented its proposal for maintaining the national purchasing power to the President's Labor-Management Conference. It was a simple proposal: substantial wage increases to be agreed upon through collective bargaining.

The captains of America's basic industries gave a curt answer: No. That answer revealed their program: to smash our labor organizations, destroy the workingman's only source of strength, depress wages, and shrink up mass purchasing power.

The CIO had no recourse but to the picket lines. The common people, farmers, veterans, small businessmen, rallied behind its struggle to preserve the nation's pay envelope. Through the strength of its organizations and with the support of the people, CIO won the first round in the battle for American abundance.

(To be continued)

CIO Hits Franco

Joining with leaders of eight other organizations, CIO President Philip Murray this week sent a memo to the United Nations Security Council demanding quick and positive action to end Franco's fascist regime in Spain.

The memo asked the UN to act against Franco on the ground that his fascist dictatorship is a "creature of the Axis" and therefore "a focal point of danger" to the peace of the world.

(Meanwhile, both the U. S. and British delegates to the UN Council, which have been insisting on action against the Soviet Union, have refused to take up the issue of Franco, recommending instead a "study" that will produce nothing.)

Franco Spain is crowded with Nazi German scientists, now working on atomic bombs, and is giving shelter to thousands of Nazi war criminals as well as being the safe haven of hundreds of millions of dollars of Nazi cash and other assets, the memo pointed out.

The joint memo asked action by the United Nations on these main grounds:

"Because it (Franco's regime) was established through the force of Axis arms . . . because throughout the war it served as a satellite of the Axis . . . because since the war's end it has continued its practices on the Nazi-Fascist model . . . because, outside of Argentina, it harbors the largest single concentration of Nazi wealth, machinery, agents and techniques, constituting a new threat of aggression."

56 Congressmen Who Stand Against Fascism

Just 56 Congressmen had the guts to vote against fascism when the Wood-Rankin un-American Committee demanded and got "contempt" indictments against 17 members of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee. Committee's crime was to stand up for their rights against un-American witch-hunt aimed at all progressives, liberals and labor.

Here's the list. If your Congressman is on it, congratulate him. If he's not, ask him why.

	Dist.
Bailey (D. W. Va.)	3
Barrett (D. Pa.)	1
Biemiller (D. Wis.)	5
Bloom (D. N.Y.)	20
Celler (D. N.Y.)	15
Coffe (D. Wash.)	6
Crosser (D. Ohio)	21
De Lacy (D. Wash.)	1
Douglas (D. Calif.)	14
Eberharter (D. Pa.)	32
Engel (R. Mich.)	9
Gallagher (D. Minn.)	3
Gordon (D. Ill.)	8
Gorski (D. Ill.)	4
Granahan (D. Pa.)	2
Granger (D. Utah)	1
Green (D. Pa.)	5
Harless (D. Ariz.)	At L.
Havenner (D. Calif.)	4
Healy (D. Calif.)	13
Heffernan (D. N.Y.)	11
Heselton (R. Mass.)	1
Holifield (D. Calif.)	19
Hook (D. Mich.)	12
Huber (D. Ohio)	14
Jackson (D. Wash.)	2
Kefauver (D. Tenn.)	3
Kelley (D. Penn.)	27
Keogh (D. N.Y.)	9
King (D. Calif.)	17
Kirwan (D. Ohio)	19
Kopplemann (D. Conn.)	1
LaFollette (R. Ind.)	8
Link (D. Ill.)	7
McGlinchey (D. Pa.)	6
Madden (D. Ind.)	1
Marcantonio (ALP. N.Y.)	18
Miller (D. Calif.)	6
Morgan (D. Pa.)	24
Murdock (D. Ariz.)	At L.
Neely (D. W. Va.)	1
O'Toole (D. N.Y.)	13
Outland (D. Calif.)	11
Patterson (D. Calif.)	16
Powell (D. N.Y.)	22
Rayfiel (D. N.Y.)	14
Resa (D. Ill.)	9
Robinson (D. Utah)	2
Rowan (D. Ill.)	2
Ryter (D. Conn.)	At L.
Sabath (D. Ill.)	5
Sadowski (D. Mich.)	1
Savage (D. Wash.)	3
Starkey (D. Minn.)	4
Tolan (D. Calif.)	7
Woodhouse (D. Conn.)	2

memo from PAC

To:

From:

Subject: Registration for Primaries

Your vote is your weapon for peace and security.

Before you can vote, you must register!

Primary elections are here. In many districts the primary election is the election. It decides who will speak for you in Congress in the next two years.

Even after the CIO has won its fight for wage increases, it will be only half the victory. For unless you win on the political front, economic gains will be swept away. Remember the wave of anti-labor legislation? That's only a forerunner of things to come ... unless

You register and Vote

But don't stop there. Make sure members of your family, your friends and co-workers, your butcher, baker, doctor, lawyer, minister are all registered.

REGISTER — VOTE!

HERE ARE YOUR FACTS

Lies About Price Control

By JOSEPH CALIFF, Research Director

You probably have noticed some of the full-page ads which the National Association of Manufacturers has been running in the newspapers lately. The NAM is spending $1,000,000 on this press campaign to spread propaganda on subjects dear to the pocketbooks of big business.

One of these ads is about inflation. We are threatened by inflation, says the NAM. Most of us will agree on that, and have had the notion that the way to prevent it is by controlling prices until the danger is over.

Not at all, says the NAM. Quite the reverse. It is price control itself which is causing inflation! Price controls, they say, are holding up production because manufacturers can't afford to produce at the prices OPA allows them to charge.

The result is a shortage of goods which creates inflationary pressure. "Remove price controls on manufactured goods and production will step up fast. Goods will then pour into the market and, within a reasonable time, prices will adjust themselves naturally . . ."

The Only Trouble

The only trouble with this argument is that it isn't true. How false it is was exposed a couple of weeks ago when Reconversion Director Snyder issued his latest report on the progress of reconversion. Snyder's report explodes completely the NAM claim that production is being held up. The report says:

"Total civilian production now stands at the highest level ever reached by the Nation, in war or in peace: an annual rate of more than $150 billion."

A few days after this report came out, Snyder's office revised its estimate of current production upward to $154 billion. In terms of 1941 prices, this amounts to $122 billion, greater than the previous high point of $107 billion reached in 1941 and the $88 billion of 1929.

One of the big reasons why shortages persist is that the demand is so much greater now than it has ever been before. As early as January, production of such things as washing machines and tires was greater than in 1941.

The facts are that price control isn't holding up production now. It certainly didn't during the war. All lines of business have produced more, and made bigger profits—under price control—than ever before. They will do even better this year.

Where production has been held up, the blame falls squarely on employers who have placed greed for profits and their desire to smash labor above the welfare of the country. The following are examples:

Manufacturers Hoarding

● At the end of 1945, electrical manufacturers, among others, withheld goods from the public so that they could sell them at a higher profit when tax rates were reduced after the first of the year.

● The steel industry put on a sit-down strike against the government, refusing to make steel until it got a big price increase.

● General Motors, American Tobacco, Westinghouse, and others put union-busting ahead of production, hoping to starve their striking workers back to work. They had nothing to lose by staying closed. Under the tax laws Congress has guaranteed them large profits whether they operate or not.

● Right now, manufacturers are hoarding goods, hoping that the Senate will finish off the OPA so they can then jump their prices and clean up still bigger profits.

Certainly, OPA can't be accused these days of being very tough about granting increases to anyone who can make a case for higher prices. Why, then, are the NAM and other pressure groups trying to kill price control?

The explanation is that they know they can't justify the high prices they want. So their only hope is to get rid of the OPA which stands in their way. Then the sky will be the limit and we will get inflation, but fast.

Eventually "prices will adjust themselves naturally," all right, as the NAM says. What will cause this "adjustment" is a crash and a disastrous depression. That is what happened after the last war when price controls were lacking.

National Health A U.S. Necessity

No matter how hard he tries, no worker can ever manage to kid himself into believing he can put aside enough money to take care of the medical and health needs of his family. That's why all eyes are turned to the fight for a national health program now going on in Congress.

Senate hearings have begun on the Wagner-Murray-Dingell national health bill (S 1606), which would provide every man, woman and child in the U. S. with health insurance. The bill provides medical and hospital care regardless of ability to pay.

Wealthiest— But Not Healthiest

We know today, that in spite of the tremendous advances made in medical science, the families that need it most are without adequate medical care. Over 40% of the young men who were drafted in the past few years were found physically unfit for military duty.

Over 15 million Americans living in 40% of the counties in the U. S. are without a general hospital. Rural areas, particularly, suffer for lack of doctors and hospitals.

Ours is the wealthiest nation in the world, but we are far from being the healthiest.

Medical care is not a luxury, it's a necessity. Junior's much needed glasses; that regular visit to the doctor before it's too late; all these and other more immediate medical attention are put in the offing because the family budget can't stand the strain. It's a familiar story to most families.

The Wagner-Murray-Dingell health bill makes national health a government responsibility. In 1944, President Roosevelt outlined the "right to adequate medical care and the opportunity to achieve and enjoy good health," as a basic human right for every American "regardless of station, race or creed."

Benefits under the Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill include all needed services by the family doctor at the office, home, hospital or clinic. Plus surgery, hospital care, maternity care, expensive drugs, x-ray, eye examinations and glasses, dental care, etc.

80% of U. S. Covered

Some 80% of the people, including agricultural and food processing workers, employes in industry and commerce, farmers, small businessmen, etc., and their wives and children under 18, are covered by the benefits of the bill. Under the provisions of the bill, each patient is free to choose his own doctor.

The plan is to be financed by a special health fund in the U. S. Treasury made up from government funds and payroll deductions of 1½% from employee and 1½% of the employer's payroll.

Strong Steward System— Backbone Of The Union

By Connie Anderson, Education Director

Stewards are the backbone of the union. A good steward is the elected representative of the workers in the department. He fights for the rights of the workers, winning their grievances, uniting them solidly in the union.

Companies know this. And if they want to fight the growing strength of a union, they fight to prevent the stewards from being effective. How?

● They try to prevent the steward from taking up grievances, promptly and with the foreman.

The company would like to see workers speaking individually to the foreman about grievances. That will perpetuate the company system of dealing with workers one by one, will keep their power to divide and rule, through the foreman. It will prevent the growth of collective bargaining, of sticking together, which is unionism.

● The company will want to intimidate workers, to make them afraid to work through their union, to scare them away from day to day contact with the union steward, to make them think the union cannot help them.

● The company will try to play favorites with non-union, or company-minded workers, to give them benefits it doesn't give union members, and thereby cause dissension and division among the workers.

● The company would like to deprive the individual worker of the experience and advice the union steward can give him; in other words, to pit the individual green worker, who doesn't know all the rights, against the coached foreman who has been drilled by management.

● The company will try to prevent the union steward from enforcing the contract and protecting the workers' rights, and thereby steal the benefits of the contract from the workers and break the workers' faith in unionism and collective action.

Tell Us About It

Stewards who run into these and similar anti-union activities are asked to write their experiences to this column. Let's build up a good discussion in FTA News on problems stewards face and how they meet them.

Does a foreman have the right to settle grievances directly with a worker? NO. That has been settled in National law by the National Labor Relations Board. If the foreman did have such a right, this could and would be used to break unions. It would be used to break down the union grievance machinery, so that eventually even the stooges who try to get special favors would be out on a limb.

With the union strength to settle grievances gone, no workers would get consideration from the company. That's why we stick together behind the union steward. The Wagner Act protects that union right in federal law.

A company may contest this position by quoting section 9 of the National Labor Relations Act, the Wagner Act, which says:

"Representatives designated or selected for the purpose of collective bargaining by the majority of the employes . . . shall be the exclusive representatives of all the employes in such unit for the purpose of collective bargaining in respect to rates of pay, wages, hours of employment, or other conditions of employment: Provided, That any individual employe or a group of employes shall have the right at any time to present grievances to their employer."

It is the "Provided" part that some employers will try to use to break down grievance settlement.

NLRB Policy Plain

But the NLRB policy is very plain that no grievance in a union plant can be either presented or settled unless the steward is present, unless the union grievance procedure is followed, and unless the union representative agrees to final disposition of the grievance.

If you need legal chapter and verse to prove this to a boss, quote this famous NLRB case: Hughes Tool Company (Houston, Texas) and United Steel Workers of America, Locals Nos. 1742 and 2457 (CIO), Case No. 16-C-1018, Aug. 8, 1944. In Volume 14 of the Labor Relations Reporter, page 244.

How to defeat company moves against stewards will be discussed next issue. Stewards! Send your problems and experiences to the FTA NEWS so they may become part of this column!

(Thanks to Herman Schendel of the Abraham Lincoln School in Chicago for much of above information.)

Henderson Urges Anti-Fascist Unity

"Progressive Americans of all races and creeds must unite as never before to halt native fascism in its tracks and stop the drive to World War III," said General President Donald Henderson in a greeting to the Congress on Civil Rights scheduled for April 27-28.

The Congress, called to plan united action to halt the current reactionary drive against labor and minority groups, will take place in Detroit, Mich. Among the issues to be dealt with are anti-Negro violence; the fight against anti-Semitism; and other violations of civil rights; as well as the defense of labor's rights.

"The recent brutal murder of one of our members in Little Rock, Ark., and the attempted railroading of innocent workers for this killing, together with the brutal assaults on the Negro people in Columbia, Tenn., and Freeport, New York, make such united action imperative right now," Henderson's wire said.

WHY FTA-CIO FIGHTS FOR 65c

American workers who get less than 65c an hour don't buy much food. Like this couple from Webber Falls, Okla., they live mostly on the cheapest and poorest food they can buy—because that's the only kind they can afford. The Senate (see News, April 15) has passed a badly amended bill, excluding food workers from coverage and raising food costs by the inflationary Pace rider. The bill now goes to the House. This is where we have to make our fight for a decent, minimum living wage—65c an hour with full coverage for food workers and others now left out. Have you wired your Congressman to pass the 65c bill, at the full 65c rate, with full coverage? If you haven't, do it now. *(picture from CIO News)*

Fight AFL Goon Squads

PUFFED AND SWOLLEN, the usually smiling face of FTA International Representative Jack Montgomery, shows marks of the Teamster beating he suffered in the first use of violence against FTA staff members. His teeth were broken by professional Teamster maulers. "We're going to answer this violence with stronger organization inside the cannery plants," Montgomery said. "It's no surprise that Teamsters have to use strong arm stuff —they have no base among the rank and file cannery workers. Fear is all they have to fall back on — and cannery workers don't scare."

(Continued from Page 1)

ing provisions of the illegal contract agreement on cannery workers.

"Thus, manager Bundy of the Stockton Products Co., a cannery, and manager Kent of the Moorpak plant in Stockton, publicly distributed cash to workers who were being hired, for the purpose of paying their Teamster union clearance fees.

"Scores of experienced cannery workers are now being denied their customary employment in canneries because they are known to favor the FTA-CIO and Teamster officials refuse to grant them clearance.

"In Oakland, Hayward and other areas, leading CIO workers have been fired from their jobs on trumped-up charges, in obvious company efforts to weaken CIO strength in the plants.

"Far from bringing order to the cannery industry, the illegal contract is spreading confusion and resentment, rendering orderly processing less likely, increasing prospects of crop spoilage in spite of the cannery workers' wish to maintain regular production while bettering their working conditions."

Moreno Hails Findings

Meanwhile, FTA Vice-President and Regional Director Luisa Moreno, while hailing a Labor Board Trial Examiner's finding that in still another case the Lincoln Packing Co. of Lincoln, Calif., was guilty of anti-Wagner Act collusion with the Teamsters, pointed out that this was fresh proof of the validity of the whole FTA case.

Charges against the California Processors and Growers, Moreno said, "are based on large scale action duplicating the small scale action of the Lincoln company in granting exclusive recognition and bargaining rights to the AFL Teamsters, in defiance of the NLRB order that neither CIO nor AFL unions could be recognized until an industry-wide election this summer could decide which was really the cannery workers' choice."

CIO Leaders Join Fight

Realizing that the fight of the FTA to make the Teamsters and the industry obey the Wagner Act is the fight of the entire CIO, leaders of several CIO international unions have wired the U. S. government on the seriousness of the case.

These are Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and chairman of the CIO Political Action Committee; Eleanor Nelson, president of the United Federal Workers; President O. A. Knight of the Oil Workers; President Morris Muster of the Furniture Workers; Secretary John J. Stanley of the Office and Professional Workers and Secretary Harry Sayre of the United Paper Workers.

Hillman wired NLRB Chairman Paul M. Herzog in Washington, D. C.: "Urge that NLRB take immediate steps to have contract between California canners and Teamsters set aside. This contract clearly illegal in view of pending election ordered by NLRB. Prompt and vigorous action essential to uphold Wagner Act and assure California cannery workers of fair election and full freedom in their choice of collective bargaining representative."

As the legal situation stands now, the NLRB in Washington needs to go to court to get an injunction restraining the Teamsters and the employers from carrying on their collusive, anti-Wagner Act deals.

In addition, the Board must set about enforcing those sections of the Wagner Act that forbid coercion and intimidation of workers, expressed in the firing of scores of active FTA workers in the canneries.

Failure to do so will be a clear signal to all employers—and to their stooges in the AFL—that the Wagner Act can be set aside without fear of punishment.

Wires should pour in on the Board and on Schwellenbach to this effect, demanding that the government enforce the laws it is sworn to uphold.

AFL TEAMSTER GOONS' victim was R. L. Warren, FTA international representative, who was viciously beaten near Modesto, Calif., by a Teamster's goon squad out to terrorize FTA officials and rank and file in the California cannery beef. Says Warren: "Blacked eyes and bruised heads may be Teamster trademarks — but FTA-CIO will win by opening eyes and clearing heads of those few California people who still think of Teamsters thugs as trade unionists instead of company agents."